TOKYOPOP
MILK
DEKO-BOKO SUGAR DAYS
ATSUKO YUSEN

DEKOBOKO
SUGAR
DAYS
ATSUKO YUSEN

Chapter 1
IT ALL STARTED THAT DAY.
THE THIN ARMS THAT CLUNG TO MY OUT-STRETCHED HAND...
THE TEARS STREAMING DOWN THOSE PALE CHEEKS...
I WANTED NOTHING MORE...
THAN TO PROTECT THIS SWEET LITTLE GIRL.
IT WAS ALL SO DARNED CUTE.
HIC
SNIFF

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YOU STILL DON'T LIKE IT?

QUIT CALLING ME "YUYU."

HE'S RUI HANAMINE (186 CM TALL)*.

I'M YUU-JIROU MATSU-KAZE (165 CM TALL)*.

*186 CM = 6'

*165 CM = 5'4"

HE'S OFTEN MISTAKEN FOR A GIRL!

AND THUS, MY FIRST CRUSH CAME TO AN END.

AFTER WHAT HAPPENED, HIS MOTHER CAME TO THANK ME, AND THAT'S WHEN I REALIZED MY MAJOR MISUNDERSTANDING.

BEAR

BUT NOW "SHE" IS A "HE" WHO COMPLETELY TOWERS OVER ME.

YUYU!

...OR SO I THOUGHT.

YIPPEE!

NOT CUTE AT ALL!

NOT CUTE!

YUU-JIROU?!

THAT'S A WALL. YOU CAN'T PASS THROUGH.

BAM

HE'S SO...

CU...

ズドキュン

BADUMP

WE LIVE NEAR EACH OTHER. SO WE'VE GOTTEN IN THE HABIT OF WALKING HOME TOGETHER.

I'LL HAVE 10 THINGS TO RESPOND WITH!

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

SINCE THEN, HE'S GROWN ATTACHED TO ME FOR SOME REASON.

WHEN I SAY "ONE"...

HUH?

NOPE!

YOU NEVER GET TIRED OF TALKING. DO YOU?

I HAVE SO MUCH TO CATCH UP WITH YOU ABOUT.

HEH HEH!

SINCE WE'RE IN DIFFERENT CLASSES AND CAN'T TALK DURING LUNCH...

THADUMP

YOU GUESSED IT.

MY FIRST CRUSH WAS SUPPOSED TO BE OVER AND DONE WITH.

BUT I STILL FIND MYSELF THINKING THAT MY 180 CM+ TALL CHILDHOOD BUDDY IS CUTE.

I CAN'T SEEM TO GET OVER MY GRIEVOUS MISUNDER-STANDING.

THADUMP

THADUMP

WE'RE GONNA BE LATE. WE'RE JUST AT THE SCHOOL GATE.

YUUJIROU, WHAT'RE YOU DOING?

IT'S NOT LIKE I DREAM ABOUT ANY OTHER GUYS...

THEN AGAIN, I DON'T THINK ABOUT GIRLS EITHER...

MUTTER

MUTTER

WALKING TO SCHOOL AGAIN TODAY, HUH? HOW CHUMMY.

OH! MATSUKAZE. 'MORNING.

GOOOOD...

SEE YA LATER, YUU-JIROU!

DRAG

WELL, THEN!

ON THAT NOTE, I'LL BE BORROWING HIM! TA-TA FOR NOW!

EIJI TAKENAKA. THE POPULAR BOY IN RUI'S CLASS (190 CM).

*190 CM = 6'2"

DIDN'T YOU KNOW? WE'RE ON CLEAN-UP DUTY TODAY.

WE ARE?! UH-OH!

THAT'S RIGHT "UH-OH." YOU, SIR, ARE LATE.

GRAB

MORNING!

WAH!

TAKENAKA!

GRRR!

JUMP

ARE YOU EVER GOING TO GET OVER YOUR HEIGHT COMPLEX?

I SWEAR.

KODAI UMINO. MATSUKAZE'S FRIEND (170 CM).

*170 CM = 5'7"

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.

HUH?

JAB

CLINK

CLINK

JANGLE

BADUM

NO LITTERING

TA-DA-DA

TA-DA

GUNGUN MILK

AND YOU QUIT BREAKING THE FOURTH WALL.

QUIT BROADCASTING PEOPLE'S HEIGHTS TO THE WORLD

WITH THE PRIME EXAMPLE BEING HOW YOU INCLUDE EVERYONE'S HEIGHT IN THEIR INTROS.

LIKE SOME MANGA CHAR-ACTER!

YOU'RE DESPERATE!

THAT'S RICH COMING FROM THE GUY WHO CHUGS THAT STUFF EVERY DAY!

SSSSSIP

CLINK

CLINK

JAB

CLUNK

CHUG

CHUG

CHUG

GUUUULP

I WOULDN'T HAVE ANY PROBLEMS.

YOU'RE RIGHT.

IF I WENT OUT WITH A REGULAR, RUN-OF-THE-MILL GIRL...

AWW! SHE RAN AWAY.

HEY.

HEY!

HAAAH.

SHEESH, I'M USING HIS HEIGHT AS A STANDARD TO COMPARE AGAINST AGAIN.

THERE'S NO NEED TO LET IT GET TO YOU SO BADLY.

LOOK, YOU'RE GOOD AT SPORTS AND NOT TOO HARD ON THE EYES.

YOU'RE LIKE IN THE MID-UPPER RANGE.

MID-UPPER... WHAT NOW?

IF YOU JUST GO OUT WITH A GIRL SHORTER THAN YOU, YOU WON'T HAVE ANY PROBLEMS AT ALL.

SLORP

WHAT IF SHE ASKS ME OUT? ♡♡

DID YOU SEE THAT? A SUPER CUTE GIRL WAS LOOKING THIS WAY!

YOU CERTAINLY SEEM TO BE HAVING FUN.

HER TIE WAS A DIFFERENT COLOR, SO SHE MUST BE A FIRST-YEAR.

I GUESS...

AH HA HA!

...

WHAT DO YOU WANT?

HEY!

I FIGURED WE COULD WALK HOME TOGETHER.

I HEARD THE CLUB ADVISORS HAD AN EMERGENCY MEETING...

SO YOU DON'T HAVE SPORTS TODAY, RIGHT?

JUST GREAT.

THADUMP

I-IS THAT SO.

DID YOU SEE HIM? DID YOU?

HOW'D IT GO?

I DUNNO...

I MEAN, I GUESS HE WAS PRETTY COOL.

AUGH! YOU'RE TOO MUCH!

SO? WHATCHA GONNA DO?

DIIING

DOOONG

AND YOU CAN FORGET ABOUT THE CREPE STAND.

WHAAAAAAT?!

YOU ARE FORBIDDEN FROM COMING WITHIN ONE METER OF ME TODAY.

...!!! (SPEECH-LESS)

SAY SOMETHING WRONG?

AH! D-DID I...

LISTEN.

WHY ME?

WHEN YOU COULD BE WALKING HOME WITH TAKENAKA INSTEAD.

THERE'S A CREPE STAND THAT'S ONLY OPEN ON MONDAYS.

THAT'S A WHOLE STATION AWAY.

OH! I KNOW JUST THE PLACE!

HOW ABOUT WE GRAB A BITE TO A EAT?

I GUESS I HAVE TO ADMIT...

WHAT MY FEELINGS REALLY ARE.

HE'S SO CUTE.

...

HM?

よろ...

SLUMP

STOMP

STOMP

STRUT

STRUT

HUH?

GLOOM

ストオン....

LISTEN TO THIS! TAKENAKA IS SUCH A DOOF!

AFTER ALL, YUUJIROU...

EVER SINCE THEN, YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN MY–

OF COURSE YOU'RE FUN!

IT'S NOT LIKE I EVER...

HAVE ANYTHING INTERESTING TO ADD TO YOUR STORIES ANYWAY.

I DON'T SEE WHAT YOU FIND SO FUN ABOUT ME.

BUT YOU ARE FUN!

IT'S RAINING.

SSSHHH

AH...

PUP

PUP

PUP ?

PITTER PATTER

YEAH.

LOOKS LIKE IT'S NOT LETTING UP ANY TIME SOON.

POUR

THERE'S A ROOF OVER THAT BUS STOP!

HEY! OVER THERE!

WAH! ACK!

OH, NO! IT'S REALLY COMING DOWN!

WHAT'S THE MATTER? HURRY IT UP!

DILLY もた

DALLY もた

UUUUH!

BUT...

I'M SOAKED DOWN TO MY BRIEFS.

AHH... I'M SOAKED DOWN TO MY BRIEFS.

OH, MAN...

THIS SUCKS.

くしょ…

DRENCHED

くいっ

YANK

NOW'S NOT THE TIME FOR THAT!

AH!

YOU SAID NOT TO COME WITHIN ONE METER...

!

N-N-
NOTHING.

?

WHAT
IS IT?

THAT CUT!

HM?

BADUMP

IT LEFT... A SCAR.

SORRY.

SHWF

QUIT...

PAWING ME!

THIS REALLY TAKES ME BACK.

BADUMP

BADUMP

BADUMP

THAT DAY, YUUJIROU, YOU–

DO YOU REMEMBER THAT DAY?

EEEP!

HUH?

JUST LISTEN UP!

YOU'D BETTER NOT BE TOUCHING YOUR OTHER FRIENDS LIKE THAT!

YOU HAVE NO IDEA...!

NO IDEA HOW WORRIED YOU MAKE ME!

YOU'RE ALWAYS BEING SO CARE-LESS!

LEAVING YOURSELF WIDE OPEN!

SORRY.

POUR

O-OH... UM, IT'S OKAY...

YUYU, YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE I'M LIKE THIS WITH.

...

...LOOK.

WE'LL HAVE CREPES NEXT TIME.

THAT'S GOOD TO KNOW.

THA...

SWOON

THE ONLY ONE

AUGH!

?!

WE COULD RUN HOME IN THIS.

YOU'RE RIGHT.

IT'S ONLY A DRIZZLE NOW.

I NEED TO GET HOME NOW!

UUUUGH! I SPRUNG A BONER!

I'M PART OF THE GO-STRAIGHT-HOME CLUB!

QUIT USING YOUR SPORTS CLUB SPRINT!

WAIT UP, YOU'RE TOO FAST!

SPLASH

SPLASH

AAAW, THAT'S BACK IN EFFECT?

AND YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO COME WITHIN ONE METER OF ME AGAIN.

1m.

ACK! WAIT!

LET'S GO, THEN!

DASH

AFTER ALL, I ADMIRE HIM LIKE NO ONE ELSE.

MATSUKAZE!

EARTH TO MATSUKAZE!

THAT CUTE GIRL WHO WAS WATCHING US YESTERDAY IS BACK!

THIS IS NO TIME TO DIE!

CAN'T BELIEVE I WANT TO SEE HIS NIPPLES AGAIN... HAAH...

SHUT UP. I'M BUSY DYING OF GUILT OVER HERE.

THE NEXT DAY

SUNNY

BEAM

WHAT HAPPENED.

AND THAT'S...

HMM!

YOU BET I LIKE HIM!

YOU SURE LIKE MATSUKAZE, DON'T YOU!

EVERY DAY, IT'S YUUJIROU THIS AND YUUJIROU THAT.

To Be Continued...

MATSUKAZE...
U-UM...
SHE WAS A CUTE GIRL WHO'S SHORTER THAN ME.
IT WAS LIKE A GIFT FROM GOD.
IF YOU'D BE WILLING, COULD WE...
YOU SEE...
I HAVE SOMETHING TO TELL YOU.

Chapter 2

DEKO-BOKO SUGAR DAYS

: YUSEN ATSUKO

HOW...

HOW CAN SOME-ONE BE SO COOL?

SLAP

OW!

AH!

FLINCH

YOU'RE BLEEDING!

DRIP

I'M FINE!

YOU'LL ONLY GET YOURSELF HURT!

YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THIS! LET GO OF MY HAND!

GRAB

YOU SAVED ME THAT DAY.

SECOND GYMNASIUM

JUDO CLUB • KENDO CLUB

I'LL PULL YOU UP ON THE COUNT OF THREE!

IT'S JUST A SCRATCH.

SHINAY

HEH HEH HEH.

YOU'VE GOT THAT RIGHT.

MATSUKAZE IS AMAZING.

KENDO CLUB GIRLS

THAT'S ANOTHER WIN FOR HIM!

I GOT SWEAT IN MY EYE.

I'M SO PROUD OF MY CHILDHOOD FRIEND. HE'S WICKED COOL.

ACCORDING TO A NUMBER OF MY FEMALE COMPANIONS...

I'M MORE THE TYPE TO GET FRIEND-ZONED.

I WONDER IF HE HAS A GIRLFRIEND.

WELL, ACTUALLY, EARLIER...

WHEN, REALLY, HE'S THE ONE WINNING THE HEARTS OF ALL THE LADIES.

YUUJIROU'S GOT THE WRONG IDEA (FOR SOME REASON) THAT I'M POPULAR.

AND YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED SINCE.

WHAM

YOU'RE STILL SHINING.

IS IT GOOD?

IT TASTES LIKE FRUIT.

IT'S GREAT.

WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?

RUI!

IT'S FLAVORED WATER.

SO I TRIED MAKING SOME MYSELF TOO. I WENT WITH CITRUS FRUITS SINCE YOU LIKE THEM SO MUCH.

MY SISTER'S BEEN REALLY INTO IT LATELY.

THIS IS FOR YOU!

TADA

I BROUGHT YOU SOMETHING SPECIAL TODAY!

GOOD WORK IN TODAY'S SESSION!

YOU MEAN DOMESTIC STUFF?

YOU COULD SAY THAT.

THAT'S SO LIKE YOU.

DABBLING IN STUFF LIKE THIS.

SIP

IS IT WATER?

WHAT IS IT? IT'S GOT NO COLOR.

TASTE AND SEE.

GLUG

GLUG

GLUG

YOU CAN DRINK AS MUCH OF IT AS YOU WANT.

SWEAT

SWEAT

A BAD TRAIT TO HAVE.

IT'S NOT...

AAH, AT TIMES LIKE THIS I FEEL LIKE I'M THE CLUB MANAGER IN LOVE WITH THE CAPTAIN! ♡

SPUUUURT

GLOW

I'LL WASH YOUR THERMOS AND GIVE IT BACK LATER.

I KNOW YOU HAVE TO MAKE DINNER FOR YOUR SISTER.

I STILL HAVE TO PACK UP HERE, SO I DON'T WANT TO MAKE YOU WAIT.

OH, BUT TODAY'S-

Y-YOU SHOULD GO HOME.

HUH?

SNUB

DID MY JOKE HIT HOME THAT HARD?

AH! I'M SORRY. ARE YOU OKAY?

DON'T SAY WEIRD STUFF LIKE THAT!

KOFF! KOFF!

KOFF! GAH!

IT ALL STARTED THAT DAY IN THE RAIN.

I MUST HAVE...

REALLY UPSET HIM.

YAY!

WEE!

...

MY SISTER'S GOING OUT DRINKING, SO SHE'LL BE HOME LATE.

LET'S GO GET SOME SNACKS ON THE WAY HOME TOGETHER!

IT'S EMBARRASSING HOLDING HANDS!

I WON'T STOP GOING HOME WITH YOU, THOUGH!

BUT THAT EVENTUALLY ENDED TOO.

YUUJIROU AND I ALSO USED TO HOLD HANDS ON THE WAY HOME, BACK IN THE DAY.

SNATCH

AAW, THEY'RE SUCH CLOSE FRIENDS.

I'M JEALOUS.

HE'S BEEN AVOIDING MY EYE.

IT FEELS LIKE...

LATELY...

AT LEAST...

THAT'S WHAT I'D WANTED TO SAY.

THE LONELY WALK HOME...

ONE OF THESE DAYS, HE'LL GET A GIRLFRIEND...

A GIRL-FRIEND...?

I'M HOME, MIKO.

Meeeow

KLATCH

HANA

TUG

MAYBE YUUJIROU'S ENTERING ADULTHOOD FASTER THAN ME.

IT'S ONLY NATURAL THAT WE'D DRIFT APART.

WE'RE IN HIGH SCHOOL NOW.

HISSSSS!

WHIRRRR

WHIRRRR

SCRUBB

SCRUBB

NOT INTERESTED.

NO WAY.

NOT TOO LONG AGO, WHEN I ASKED...

IS HOW HE RESPONDED, SO I DON'T THINK HE HAS ONE YET.

AWWW, MIKO.

CAN YOU PLEASE NOT?

WITH HER INSTEAD.

BUT IF HE EVER DOES GET ONE...

IT'LL ONLY BE NORMAL FOR HIM TO GO TO AND FROM SCHOOL...

POOMF

JUST LOOK AT THIS!

YOU'RE EVEN DRUNKER THAN LAST TIME.

HELL YEAH, I AM! I'M ON CLOUD NINE TODAY!

ISN'T IT BEAU-TIFUL?

THE NEW GIRLS SAID THEY MADE IT.

I'LL BE THE THIRD WHEEL.

SAD.

MAN, THAT'S GOING TO BE...

PRETTY...

RUU!!!! ♡ I'M HOOOME! ♡

JUMP

BAM

S-SIS.

YOU'RE BACK.

HUH?!

YOU ARE GOING TO WEAR *THIS* TO SCHOOL TOMORROW.

IT'S A LITTLE FLASHY, BUT IT'S PRETTY.

OOH.

RIGHT?!

YOU'RE WEARING A REALLY CUTE ONE TODAY.

WOW, HANAMINE.

I-I DUNNO... THIS IS A LITTLE MUCH...

I BARELY GET AWAY WITH THE PLAIN ONE I USUALLY WEAR.

I JUST CAN'T WEAR SOMETHING THIS OBVIOUSLY GIRLY...

I NEVER REALIZED YOU HAD IT SO ROUGH.

HAAH...

IT'S TO PROMOTE MY SISTER'S STORE.

TOOK YOU LONG ENOUGH TO NOTICE!

OH, YOU MEAN HER GENERAL STORE.

REMEMBER THAT YOU PROMISED TO HELP PROMOTE THE STORE!

UUH...!

LOOM

THIS IS A DIRECT ORDER FROM YOUR SISTER!

CHATTER

ACK! HEY!

I WANT TO SEE IT STILL ON! BEND DOWN!

SURE, I'LL TAKE IT OFF FOR YOU.

BUT I LIKE THE WAY THE GEMS ARE PLACED.

CAN I GET A CLOSER LOOK?

I SAW IT FIRST THING THIS MORNING.

AND I COMPLI-MENTED HIM ON IT.

THUMB'S UP

IT'S JUST WEIRD TO GO THAT FAR.

THERE IT IS AGAIN. THAT SPECIAL TREATMENT YOU RESERVE ONLY FOR HANAMINE.

ROLL

IF YOU DISOBEY, I'M GOING TO ROLL AROUND IN YOUR BED AND MESS IT ALL UP!

OKAY, OKAY! GET IN YOUR OWN BED, YOU LUSH!

MWAAA HA HA HA HA!

ROLL

HISSS!

DON'T LET HIM BOTHER YOU.

NO MATTER WHAT ANYBODY SAYS...

HANAMINE.

CLINK

I THINK...

INCREDIBLY CUTE ON YOU.

THIS LOOKS...

CUTE ABOUT THAT.

THERE'S NOTHING...

YUUJIROU...

...

WHAT'S MATSUKAZE'S PROBLEM?! SUCH A KILLJOY!

SPEAKING FRANKLY WITH FRIENDS IS ONE THING, BUT HE JUST CROSSED THE LINE.

HEY! HEY, MATSUKAZE!

HMPH.

SHUT UP, YOU'RE ONLY MAKING IT WORSE!

A HOTTIE INTERESTED IN DUDES? WHAT A WASTE.

YOU OKAY?

WOW, TAKENAKA. HE TOTALLY BLEW YOU OFF.

PHEW...

RUI!

THANKS.

UH.

...

SEE YA.

I'LL SWAP IT OUT FOR THE USUAL ONE BEFORE THE TEACHER NOTICES.

BUT EVEN I THINK IT'S TOO GAUDY FOR ME.

BOTH INSIDE...

AND OUT.

HE'S SO CUTE.

I OWE YOU AN APOLOGY.

I'M SORRY.

YUUJIROU...

BUT I STILL ACTED THAT WAY.

I KNEW WHY YOU STUCK THAT PIN IN YOUR HAIR...

I STILL HAVE A LITTLE TIME.

SO I STEPPED OUTSIDE.

DON'T YOU HAVE YOUR CLUB TODAY?

H-HEY... WHAT'S UP?

HM? YOU REPLACED IT WITH THE USUAL ONE.

UM... ALSO...!

I'M NOT SAYING I THOUGHT IT WAS WEIRD...

TO BE HONEST, I ALSO FELT WEIRD WEARING IT.

I-IT'S FINE. IT'S TOTALLY FINE!

I REALLY JUST FEEL LIKE...

THE PROBLEM IS YOU'RE TOO GOOD!

AND WHEN I SAID YOU DIDN'T DO ANYTHING WRONG...

I'D EVEN GO SO FAR AS TO SAY...

I WAS WORRIED YOU WERE MAD AT ME RECENTLY.

I CAN BE SO THICKHEADED AND OBLIVIOUS.

I'M THE ONE WHO NEEDS TO APOLOGIZE.

YUUJIROU...?

DON'T APOLOGIZE!

NO! I'M NOT MAD! I WAS NEVER MAD!

YOU DIDN'T DO ANYTHING WRONG!

HUH?

THADUMP

HAAH.

HFF!

HFF!

HAAH!

HAAH!

CHATTER
CHATTER
2-B
THE NEXT DAY
WHAT'S THE MATTER, HANAMINE?!
SLUUUUMP
ウゥソ..
WH...
...!!
I'M SORRY!
BAH
WAH!
ばっ!!
JUMP
HEH HEH HEH...
HEH HEH...
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
YOU LOOK SO DEJECTED!
SNAP OUT OF IT!
WALKING HOME WITH YOU FOR A LITTLE WHILE.
I WON'T BE...
NO.
HUH?
GULP
DID MATSUKAZE SAY SOME-THING TO YOU AGAIN?
...

MATSUKAZE WAS SEEN WALKING HOME WITH SOME FIRST-YEAR GIRL.

EVERYONE'S BEEN TALKING ABOUT IT. DIDN'T YOU HEAR?

IT'S REALLY... ABOUT NOTHING...

NOT AT ALL. HE EVEN APOLOGIZED FOR YESTERDAY.

LET'S HIT THE ARCADE AFTER SCHOOL.

NOT LIKE MATSUKAZE WILL BE WAITING ON YOU ANYWAY.

IT'LL BE A NICE CHANGE OF PACE!

AH-HA! I KNOW JUST WHAT YOU NEED!

I'M JUST BRINGING MYSELF DOWN...

BUT... HOW DO YOU KNOW HE WON'T BE WAITING ON ME?

YEAH... THANKS, TAKE-NAKA.

HUH? BECAUSE...

MY HEART IS IN PIECES.

WE'RE CHANGING ROOMS FOR THE NEXT CLASS! LET'S GO.

RIGHT.

MATSUKAZE!

MILK

CLUNK

A RUDE AWAKENING

EEK!

A BOLT FROM THE BLUE

A DISASTROUS DECLINE

AAAAAH!

A SUDDEN SLIP

I...

I HADN'T...

HEARD.

PLOP

DEAR LORD.

Chapter 3

DEKO-BOKO SUGAR DAYS

: YUSEN ATSUKO

LISTEN.

BOYS DON'T GET KNIGHTS IN SHINING ARMOR.

YOU'RE SUCH A ROMANTICIST.

YOU DON'T MEAN THAT KID WHO HELPED YOU OUT OF THE GUTTER, DO YOU?

YEP!

YOU'RE JUST SAYING THAT YOU WANT TO BE LIKE HIM, RIGHT? AT LEAST I THINK SO.

YOW!

HE'S NOT YOUR PRINCE. HE'S MORE LIKE... SOMEONE YOU ADMIRE? OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

THAT DAY, YUUJIROU MATSUKAZE BECAME THE "PERSON I ADMIRE."

IS THAT WHAT IT IS?

WHEN I WAS LITTLE, MY SISTER'S WORD WAS THE GOSPEL TRUTH.

PITTER

SIS!

PITTER

SIS!

PITTER

LISTEN TO THIS!

TEE-HEE!

I'M BUSY RIGHT NOW.

WHEEEW.

WHAT IS IT, RUI?

SAY WHAT AGAIN?

HEH HEH!

I'VE BEEN VISITED BY A KNIGHT IN SHINING ARMOR TOO!

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

I SEE.

NOT A SINGLE BIT!

IT'S ALL GOOD.

I MEAN...

WHAT I'M TRYING TO SAY IS...

DASH

HAVE A GREAT LIFE!

UH...

A...

WHA...?

DOESN'T HAVE ANYWHERE TO PUT HIS HAND.

I CAN'T WALK HOME WITH YOU THIS WEEK EITHER.

SORRY.

OH!

OKAY!

I'M JUST HIS CHILDHOOD FRIEND.

AND YET...

A GIRL!

BECAUSE I'M LONELY, HAVING BEEN LEFT BEHIND BY YUUJIROU.

I PROBABLY FEEL THIS WAY...

IT'S A GIRL!

HE NEVER EVEN GAVE OFF ANY SIGNALS.

NEVER EVEN SAID A WORD ABOUT IT TO ME.

I STILL CAN'T IMAGINE IT.

I NEVER EVEN IMAGINED HE'D BE CAPABLE OF GETTING A GIRLFRIEND.

THE TRUTH IS...

OR EVEN GIRLFRIEND!

IT'S NOT LIKE I'M YUUJIROU'S WIFE.

POOMF

POOMF

BUT!

WHY DID I REACT LIKE I'M IN SOME SOAP OPERA?!

I WONDER IF HE...

MUGU

CARESSES HER GENTLY.

YOU OKAY?

RUI.

HAAH...

I WONDER IF...

WHEN IT COMES TO HIS GIRLFRIEND...

YUUJIROU'S LIKE THE LOVE INTEREST STRAIGHT OUT OF A CHICK-FLICK.

SMILING SOFTLY AT HER AND ALL THAT STUFF.

UUGH...

I DIDN'T GET A WINK OF SLEEP LAST NIGHT.

THANKS TO THAT WEIRD FANTASY...

JUMP

ボボ
BUMP

ガシャーン
CRASH

CLATTER

WHYYYYY?

I HAVE NO RIGHT... HUH?!

WHY DID I JUST IMAGINE MYSELF IN HER PLACE?!

?! ?! ?!

WHAT WAS THAT?

WHA...

JUST TO CONFIRM THE TRUTH!

I'LL JUST SNEAK A PEEK!

SORRY, SIS. YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO MAKE DO WITH REHEATED CURRY TODAY.

I LIKE IT THAT WAY, SO I DON'T REALLY MIND.

IF I REALLY THINK ABOUT IT...

I ONLY HEARD IT SECOND-HAND THROUGH TAKENAKA.

FORGIVED FROM HER

FORGIVED FROM HER

HIS CLUB SHOULD BE GETTING OUT RIGHT ABOUT NOW.

I WONDER IF TODAY...

YUUJIROU WILL BE WALKING HOME WITH HIS RUMORED GIRLFRIEND AGAIN.

GLOOMY モヤ...

GLOOMY モヤ GLOOMY モヤ GLOOMY モヤ GLOOMY モヤ GLOOMY モヤ GLOOMY モヤ GLOOMY モヤ

GLOOMY モヤ GLOOMY モヤ GLOOMY モヤ GLOOMY モヤ GLOOMY モヤ

DOOOONG

BAM

DAAAANG

DOOOONG

DRRRING

HERE HE COMES!

IT'S YUU-JIROU...

MATSUKAZE!

じっ… STARE

I am MUSE

ざわ… MURMUR

SHADY

THERE'S A CHANCE IT MIGHT NOT BE REAL AT ALL.

…

しゅん… SHWE

I STAND OUT EVEN WORSE WITH THIS TERRIBLE DISGUISE. STUDENTS TAKE THIS ROUTE.

EEEK! HE LOOKED AT US!

AH!

ばっ FWP

…

GRIP

HE REALLY DOES HAVE A GIRLFRIEND.

AND NOW I'VE WRINKLED IT ALL UP.

SHOOT, THIS DOESN'T EVEN BELONG TO ME!

HOW STUPID CAN I BE?

ACK!

WAI...

AH!

...

TRUE.

SO IT'S...

SO MUCH FOR ONLY SNEAKING A PEEK.

I'M TOTALLY STALKING HIM.

WHAT AM I EVEN DOING?

WAIT!

PEEK

THEY DON'T LOOK LIKE THEY'RE HAVING MUCH OF A CONVERSATION.

I GUESS THIS IS WHAT THEY CALL...

A PERFECT MATCH.

BUT SUCH A SHORT AND SLENDER GIRL FITS WELL NEXT TO HIM.

YUUJIROU CAN BE PRETTY CUTE WHEN HE SMILES.

OH, RIGHT.

I'D ALMOST FORGOTTEN...

ONE OR THE OTHER.

THE TIMES HE'S BEEN WITH ME LATELY...

HE'S ACTED EITHER PISSED OFF OR LIKE HE'S IGNORING ME.

THAN ANYTIME HE'S EVER BEEN WITH ME.

I'M SURE HE FEELS MUCH BETTER...

ODDLY FAMILIAR.

THIS FEELS...

GYAAAAAH!

KERSPLOOSH

THE GUTTER!!

THE SECOND TIME IN TEN-ODD YEARS!

AAAAH!

THE...

THE...!

PLOP

PLIP

HUH?

WHY AM I CRYING?!

W-WHY...

STOP! STOP!

ST-

SLIP

WHOA!

YUUJIROU HAS AS GIRLFRIEND NOW.

SO I CAN GET OUT OF THIS GUTTER MYSELF.

IT'S TIME I CALLED IT QUITS.

I'LL JUST GO HOME ALONE.

IT'S WHAT I GET FOR STALKING THE ROMANTIC COUPLE AND SPYING ON THEM.

GOD'S PUNISHING ME.

THIS IS A PUNISH-MENT.

I'M SORRY, GOD OF THE GUTTER.

BUT...

OH, WELL.

HUH?

MY LEGS HAVE NO STREN-

TUG

PULL

TUG

THE TIME HAS COME TO SAY GOODBYE TO MY CHILDHOOD FRIEND...

WHERE IT WAS TOO DEEP FOR ME TO GET OUT WITHOUT SOMEONE'S HELP.

IT'S NOT LIKE IT WAS ALL THOSE YEARS AGO.

MATSUKAZE?

IS SOMETHING WRONG?

OR WAS I HEARING THINGS?

WAS IT MY IMAGI-NATION?

EITHER WAY...

OH...?

THERE'S SOME-THING...

I WANT TO TELL YOU.

UH.

LISTEN, IJIMA.

WHA-?!

SLIP

BAM

WAAAAAH!

STOMP
STOMP
IT COULDN'T BE.
STOMP
THERE'S NO WAY...
I'D HEAR HIS VOICE.
WHAT'RE YOU DOING?
PLUNK
G-GOOD EVENING...
OH! IS IT ABOUT US NOT KNOWING EACH OTHER'S FAVORITE FOODS YET?
WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE-?
I'M SORRY.
WHAT ABOUT?
WHA...
I'VE MADE UP MY MIND.

HE SMILED.

HEH.

HE...

REACH

I THOUGHT FOR SURE I COULD GET OUT EASILY.

UH, IT'S NOT WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE.

WHAT MESS HAVE YOU GOTTEN YOURSELF INTO?

I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY.

EVEN NOW AS A HIGH SCHOOLER?!

SHOCK

SO NOW I'M STUCK.

AND I BUMPED MY HEAD...

I CAN'T PUT ANY WEIGHT ON IT.

BUT I THINK I TWISTED MY ANKLE.

COME ON.

HEH.

SAY SOMETHING.

YOU GOOF.

ALREADY?!

WHAT?! NO WAY! YOU ALREADY BROKE UP?!

WHAT SORT OF WEIRD IDEA DO YOU HAVE ABOUT ME?!

OF COURSE NOT!!

I REJECTED HER RIGHT OFF THE BAT!

ISN'T SHE YOUR GIRLFRIEND?!

SO THAT'S HOW IT WAS...

PHEW...

I SEE.

OH... SO THAT'S WHY.

SO I TRIED SPENDING SOME TIME WITH HER, BUT...

...

I TOLD HER I NEEDED TO FIGURE MYSELF OUT A LITTLE BETTER FIRST.

GULP

UH!

AH! WELL, I JUST...

TAKE-

HUH? OH... HOW DO YOU KNOW ABOUT HER?

SOMEONE TOLD ME.

THAT TAKE-NAKA...

I JUST BROKE UP WITH HER.

YUUJIROU.

WHAT ABOUT... THAT GIRL YOU WERE WITH?

I SPRUNG A BONER.

I CAN'T ABANDON MY CHILDHOOD FRIEND JUST YET!

I'M SORRY!

ACH!

SHUDDER

SHUDDER

SHUDDER

I'M SORRY FOR MAKING YOU FEEL LONELY!

I...!

OKAY!

HUG

DUDE!

WH...

WHY'RE YOU-

I MISSED YOU.

AND...

I'M SORRY...

ABOUT EVERYTHING.

?

YOU'RE VERY COOL, YUUJIROU.

YUUJIROU.

YOU SET THE BAR TOO HIGH IN TERMS OF WHAT'S COOL AND WHAT'S NOT.

I DID! EVERY LAST WORD!

DID YOU... HEAR ANYTHING I JUST SAID?

AND QUIT TALKING INTO MY EAR!

WANTED TO LOOK COOL IN FRONT OF YOU.

BUT I COULDN'T EVEN DO THAT RIGHT.

I...

I COULDN'T BRING MYSELF TO COM-PLETELY TURN HER DOWN...

AND I WAS ASHAMED OF MYSELF FOR IT.

SO I TRIED TO HIDE IT FROM YOU.

AND THAT ENDED UP MAKING YOU LONELY.

IT WAS ALL FOR NOTHING.

I DIDN'T LOOK COOL AT ALL.

THAT'S PRETTY MANLY AND COOL.

YOU'RE GREAT!

THE WAY I SEE IT...

THE FACT THAT YOU DIDN'T REJECT THAT GIRL'S FEELINGS...

AND EVEN CAME CLEAN ABOUT YOUR OWN...

I'VE TOLD YOU TO QUIT CALLING ME THAT.

HUH?! TH-THAT'S NOT A VERY NICE REPLY.

YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO COM-PLIMENT ME BACK.

AND YOU FROM BEFORE AND NOW ARE BOTH FRAIL AND HELPLESS.

HEH HEH.

AND WHY'D YOU SAY "MY"?

HUH?

NEVER MIND...

MY YUYU FROM BEFORE AND NOW...

ARE BOTH SUPER COOL!

Chapter 4

DEKO-BOKO SUGAR DAYS

: YUSEN ATSUKO

BUT...

BUT RUI...

BUT YUUJIROU...

ONLY SEES ME AS A CHILDHOOD FRIEND.

I'VE REALIZED SOMETHING...

ABOUT RUI.

ABOUT YUUJIROU.

I'M IN LOVE WITH HIM.

WHAT SHOULD I DO...?

BOTH OF THEM WERE ASTOUND-INGLY OBLIV-IOUS.

SERIOUSLY?!

ARE YOU KIDDING ME?!

I CAN'T DENY THESE FEELINGS ANYMORE.

I THINK IT STARTED EVER SINCE WE FIRST MET.

CLATTER

AAAH!

...!!

I KNEW IT'D COME SOMEDAY, BUT...

I NEVER IMAGINED IT'D BE SO SOON!

MURMUR

WHY DON'T YOU GET IN YOUR SEAT? PEOPLE ARE LOOKING.

EH?! TAKENAKA?

IT'S FINALLY COME. THE TIME HAS FINALLY COME.

HIS BUTT

SUNNY

THE NEXT DAY

YOU HAVE A CRUSH ON SOMEONE?!

NOD

I STILL HAVEN'T DECIDED WHETHER TO TELL THE PERSON I LIKE OR NOT.

HONESTLY, I THINK IT'S A ONE-SIDED CRUSH.

AND I'D HATE TO INCON-VENIENCE THEM BY TELLING THEM...

WHEN I THINK ABOUT THAT...

WHOA. WHOA. WHOA. YOU CHANGED YOUR TUNE QUICK!

BUT IT'S OKAY. AS LONG AS YOU'RE HAPPY.

BEST WISHES TO YOU BOTH!

YEAH, I FIGURED AS MUCH!

THAT'S JUST THE KIND OF GUY YOU ARE!

BAM

LIKE I'D EVER TELL YOU.

HUH?

WHAT I LIKE MOST...

SORRY, BUT I CAN'T GIVE YOU ADVICE WITHOUT A STARTING POINT.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE QUALITY ABOUT YOUR CRUSH?

BUT THE FACT THAT YOU TOLD ME...

MEANS YOU'RE LOOKING FOR A LITTLE ADVICE, EH?

YOU'RE FINALLY BECOMING A MAN!

I SEE EXACTLY WHAT'S HAPPENING HERE!

GWAAAH! YOU GOT ME!

I'M HAVING A TO HEAR HIM BOAST!.

BADUM

POP

HOW CUTE THEY ARE.

SO!

WHO'S THE LUCKY LADY?

BUT NOW I SEE YOU HAD YOUR EYE ON SOMEONE ELSE!

I THOUGHT YOU WERE CRAZY.

WHEN YOU TURNED DOWN THAT CUTE FIRST-YEAR...

YOU'VE FALLEN FOR HANAMINE.

OH, SO THAT EXPLAINS IT.

MORE SPECIFIC...

M-MORE SPECIFIC...

BE MORE SPECIFIC!

BUT PLEASE, IF YOU'VE FALLEN FOR HER, THEN OBVIOUSLY YOU'D THINK SHE'S THE CUTEST GIRL IN THE WORLD.

YOUR EYES ARE CLOUDED BY LOVE.

LET'S HOLD HANDS!

YUU-JIROU!

NOW I GET IT. IT ALL MAKES SENSE NOW.

?!?!

THERE WAS THAT ONE TIME AND THEN THAT OTHER TIME.

I DON'T MIND TAKING IT TO THE GRAVE, SURE.

スザッ THUMP

KOWTOW

TAKE THIS SECRET TO YOUR GRAVE!

YOU MUST...

...!!!

...

WE'RE CHILDHOOD FRIENDS.

A-A-ANYBODY CAN TELL?

THE WAY YOU LOOK AT EACH OTHER, ANYBODY CAN TELL.

OH, I MEAN IT ALL RIGHT.

THE ONE HANAMINE BRINGS TREATS TO...

AND WANTS TO EAT CREPES WITH...

IS YOU AND YOU ALONE.

...!

HAVE YOU ALREADY TOLD HIM HOW YOU FELT?

YOU AND HANAMINE ARE SURE TO FEEL THE SAME WAY ABOUT EACH OTHER.

BUT THAT'S A RELIEF.

YOU THINK HE... LIKES ME BACK?!

YOU'D BETTER NOT JUST BE SAYING THAT FOR THE HECK OF IT!

DON'T!!

FWAP

ANYWAY...!

YIKES! WHAT AN EXPRES-SION! I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU MAKE THAT FACE BEFORE!

???

MIND IF I SNAP A SHOT? PRETTY PLEASE?

HAH!

HAH!

HM?

CLATTER

OVER HERE!

OH! SPEAK OF THE DEVIL. IT'S HANAMINE.

YUU-JIROU?!

EEP!

WHOA! WHAT'RE YOU DOING, MATSUKAZE?!

THIS IS ALL COMING SO FAST.

REALLY?

I CAN READ YOU LIKE A BOOK!

R...

I STILL HAVEN'T...

TMP

TMP

TMP

TMP

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

YUUJIROU!

RATTLE

MENTALLY PREPARED MYSELF FOR–

WHOA! AND HERE'S SOMEONE WHO'S CLEARLY NOWHERE NEAR HITTING PUBERTY!

ビクン JUMP

YOU MEAN "ART IS AN EXPLOSION."

THOSE TWO ARE REALLY SOMETHING.

THIS MUST BE WHAT THEY MEAN WHEN THEY SAY "PUBERTY IS AN EXPLOSION!"

*THIS IS A QUOTE BY THE JAPANESE ARTIST TARO OKAMOTO

HAAAAAH.

WHAT'S THE MATTER? DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?

NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT... AREN'T YOU THAT STUD WHO'S ALWAYS HANGING OUT WITH HANAMINE?

I SHOWED HUMANITY TO MY RIVAL.

I'M SUCH AN IDIOT.

EVEN THOUGH HE ALWAYS HAD THE WRONG IDEA ABOUT ME...

YUUJIROU!

WAIT...

HOP

HE'S AMAZING...

STOMP

TMP

SWF

DASH

HANAMINE?!

BAM

WAIT, YUUJIROU!

HAH!

WAIT...

SLIP

YU-

UMINO'S HIGH-SPEED DECIPHERING

カシャ FLASH

カシャ FLASH

カシャ FLASH

カシャ FLASH

BITING

...

HUH?

THERE THERE, STUD.

PAT

*A TYPE OF JAPANESE SAVORY PANCAKE POPULAR IN THE KANTO REGION

WANNA GO HAVE SOME MONJA*?

...HUH?

BEAM

AH!

YUU-JIROU...

HE'S GONE.

...

FLOP

SPLAT

OOF!

WHAT DID I JUST SLIP ON?

ガ

WHAT WAS THAT?!

OWWW...

しば

FRUMP

A BANANA PEEL!

WHO SLIPS ON A BANANA PEEL IN THIS DAY AND AGE?!

ARE YOU KIDDING ME?

AH!

THAT PAIRED NEXT TO HIS HEIGHT...

AND I'M SO SHORT...

I'D NEVER FIT BY HIS SIDE.

I KEEP DOING THIS.

YUUJIROU...

HAH!

HAH!

HAH!

WHAT AM I...

RUNNING AWAY FROM?

HAH!

I'M MAKING EVERYTHING OUT TO BE A PROBLEM AND COMING UP WITH EXCUSES.

I'M...

SO DAMNED PATHETIC.

HE AND I ARE BOTH GUYS.

WELL, WHAT ELSE WAS I SUPPOSED TO DO?

EVEN IF WE FEEL THE SAME WAY ABOUT EACH OTHER...

BECAUSE I'M NOT THE ATHLETIC TYPE!

IT'S NOT FAIR!

HOW COME YOU GET TO RIDE THE BIKE?!

JANGLE

JANGLE

KEEP IT UP, YUUJIROU!

SPLASH

HUFF!

HUFF!

I ENDED UP...

RUNNING TO THE BEACH.

BUT THERE'S NO WAY HE COULD KEEP GOING...

WITH HIS LEGS.

HE CHASED AFTER ME PART OF THE WAY.

RUI AND I CAME HERE ONCE.

I JUST RAN THE INDEPENDENT TRAINING COURSE.

FROM OUR SCHOOL TO THE OCEANFRONT.

HE'S PROBABLY FEELING REALLY BAD ABOUT IT.

HE'S PROBABLY THINKING I'M AVOIDING HIM OUT OF HATE.

RIGHT ABOUT NOW...

"...I MISSED YOU."

AS SOON AS I CAN.

I SHOULD GO BACK.

EXACTLY...

AND THEN I'LL TELL HIM...

HOW I FEEL.

RUI!

WAIT!

YOU...!

I'M SERIOUSLY AT MY LIMIT NOW.

D-DON'T MOVE.

SWAY

TAKE ANOTHER STEP.

I CAN'T...

SCUFF

I FINALLY CAUGHT UP TO YOU.

70

FLOP

KOFF!

KOFF!

KOFF!

ARE YOU OKAY?

HAAH!

HAAH.

HAAH...

WILL YOU HEAR IT?

I HAVE SOMETHING TO TELL YOU.

YUUJIROU.

...

...

DON'T SAY IT.

YOU MIGHT BE DISGUSTED.

HAVING A GUY FEEL THIS WAY ABOUT YOU.

I DON'T KNOW IF YOU'LL LIKE...

ALL THIS TIME...

I'VE BEEN MISUN-DERSTAND-ING MY FEELINGS.

BUT I...

I'M SORRY ABOUT THAT.

YUUJIROU, I-

POOMF

EVEN THE SMELL OF HIS SWEAT...

WAS SWEET.

ALL THOSE WORRIES ABOUT GENDER AND HEIGHT...

FLEW RIGHT OUT OF MY HEAD.

BECAUSE I LOVE HIM.

I'LL SAY IT.

RUI!

I'M IN LOVE WITH YOU...

UMINO!

UMINO MONJA OKONOMI UMINO

HEY...

WHAT I HAD IN MIND!

HELLO!

TAKE THAT!

THIS ISN'T...

BEER 500

TAMA 150 TAMA 150 TAMA 350 TAMA 300

THAT HURTS!

WATCHING KIDS IS GETTING OFF EASY!

THIS WAY YOU CAN EAT DELICIOUS MONJA FOR FREE!

YOU NEVER SAID ANYTHING ABOUT BABYSITTING!

OH, MY!

KODAI! WHO'S THAT WONDERFULLY HANDSOME BOY?

UM, A FRIEND OF A FRIEND OF A FRIEND?

SSSHHH

I CAN SAY FOR SURE...

THAT RIGHT NOW, I'M...

THE HAPPIEST MAN ALIVE.

DEKO-BOKO SUGAR DAYS

: YUSEN ATSUKO

RUI.

NOBODY'S WATCHING.

OH, YOU...

...

IT REALLY SAVED ME.

THANKS FOR LENDING ME YOUR TEXTBOOK.

WELCOME.

...

WELL, I'LL BE GETTING BACK NOW...

GOOD TO HEAR. I'D BETTER STUDY WHEN I GET HOME TOO.

KEEP OUT

TODAY'S ASSIGNMENT WAS LONG... I'D HAVE BEEN SCREWED WITHOUT IT.

IN FACT, IT'S PRETTY FREAKIN' SWEET.

YOUR FACE IS KILLING ME!

AW, MAAAAAN!

IF YOU INSIST.

WITH A HEIGHT DIFFERENCE OF 21 CM...

I HATE TO ADMIT IT, BUT IT'S NOT A DISTANCE YOU CAN NATURALLY KISS AT.

QUIT YOUR TROLLING, AND LET ME BASK IN THE AFTERGLOW IN PEACE.

I CAN TOTALLY TELL WHAT YOU'VE BEEN UP TO!

CLEAR AS DAY!

YOU'RE PRACTICALLY DROOLING!

IT'S NOT BAD AT ALL...

GETTING TO SEE MY BOYFRIEND LIKE THAT...

TUCK HIS HAIR BEHIND HIS EAR AND CLOSE HIS EYES.

BUT HE'LL BEND HIS KNEES FOR ME A LITTLE...

YOU TWO SEEM TO BE GETTING ALONG SWIMMINGLY, ESPECIALLY CONSIDERING HOW LONG IT TOOK TO MAKE IT OFFICIAL.

I KNOW IT HASN'T BEEN EASY.

BUT I'M HAPPY FOR YOU.

YOU KNOW EXACTLY WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT!

YOU TEASE! ALWAYS DODGING THE QUESTION!

H-HOW FAR... HAVE WE GOTTEN WHERE?

QUIT IT. IF YOU'RE IMAGINING RUI DOING ALL THOSE THINGS, I'LL KNOCK YOUR TEETH OUT.

YOU'VE AT LEAST GOTTEN THAT FAR, NO?

AND THROB!

SO OF COURSE THEY'LL SPURT!

AND BANG!

TWO HEALTHY YOUNG HIGH SCHOOLERS MADLY IN LOVE WHO HAVE BEEN DATING FOR THREE MONTHS...

SO, HOW FAR HAVE YOU GOTTEN?

PAST KISSING YET.

W-WE HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING...

AND DON'T IMAGINE ME EITHER.

はっ… GASP!

I DON'T WANT TO RUSH THINGS AND END UP HURTING HIM.

THIS RELATIONSHIP CAME TRUE AFTER A LOT OF HARD WORK. SO I WANT TO TREAT IT RIGHT.

AND TREAT HIM RIGHT TOO.

YOU IDIOT! KEEP YOUR VOICE DOWN!

AND YOU'RE WAY TOO CLOSE!

CLAMP

MMPH!

WHAT?! ARE YOU JOKING?! YOU'RE MAD!

I GET IT THAT THE HOW-TOS ARE A LITTLE DIFFERENT WHEN IT'S TWO GUYS. BUT-

CLATTER

AS LONG AS YOU UNDERSTAND, THAT'S ALL THAT MATTERS.

YOU'RE RIGHT. PUBERTY ISN'T ONLY ABOUT MAKING A HOME RUN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

FORGIVE ME FOR ASKING SUCH A DUMB QUESTION.

HMPH.

...! MATSUKAZE, YOU'RE...

IT'S NOT THE HOW THAT'S THE PROBLEM.

WE'RE JUST DOING THINGS AT OUR OWN PACE.

ビキ

SPURT...

HE SAYS.

HEH HEH...

WELL, THAT'S HOW IT IS.

AW, MAAAN...

THAT'S SUCH A BASIC THING TO SAY.

OUR OWN... PACE?!

AUGH!

HEY. I GOT SOME MOVIE TICKETS. LET'S GO SOME-TIME.

FOR THE PAST THREE MONTHS, I'VE STRUGGLED TO FIND A WAY TO CREATE THE RIGHT MOOD.

BOOP

BEEP

HE'S SO CUTE TODAY.

YEAH...

SHOULD BE FUN!

THANKS FOR INVITING ME OUT TODAY, YUU-JIROU!

HIS GLANCE

IT'S SO BIG AND THICK!

TO DO THOSE THINGS!!

?

OF COURSE I WANT...

ジャジャーン♪
DA DA DAAAA

ドゴーン!!
KABOOOOM

...!!

...!

I CAN'T BELIEVE HE WAS STILL ALIVE!

THOSE LAST 15 MINUTES WERE SUCH A COOL CLIMAX!

WOW!

LET ME CHECK OUT THE INTERVIEW WITH THE DIRECTOR.

I HAVEN'T BEEN TO A BLOCKBUSTER IN AGES. I EVEN BOUGHT THE GUIDEBOOK ON IT.

YAY!

SURE THING! SEE YOU AT SCHOOL!

SEE YA, YUUJIROU. I HAD A GREAT TIME TODAY!

TOUCH

SQUEEZE

I COULD TAKE THE BIG LEAP INTO ADULTHOOD...

WHOA. MAYBE I'VE GOT A SHOT AT IT TODAY.

MY PARENTS HOOKED ME UP WITH THESE...

DISCOUNT TICKETS TO MOUSEY LAND.

COMPLIMENTARY

COMPLIMENTARY

BUT THIS WEEKEND WILL BE DIFFERENT.

WATCH THE NIGHT PARADE AND GET IN A ROMANTIC MOOD...

WE'LL HAVE A BLAST ON ALL THE RIDES DESIGNED SPECIFICALLY FOR COUPLES.

SPIIIIIN

THE STAIR-WAY TO ADULT-HOOD!

ADULTHOOD

AND THEN THIS TIME FOR SURE, I WILL CLIMB...

LIKE TYPICAL FRIENDS AGAIN!

DAMN IIIIIT! WE PARTED WAYS...

AND THAT'S HOW...

THE LAST THREE MONTHS HAVE BEEN!

MY BODY WON'T COOL DOWN.

I WANT HIM TO TOUCH ME MORE.

HAAH.

YUUJIROU'S BEEN ASKING FOR SO MANY KISSES LATELY. IT'S BECOMING A PROBLEM.

EARLIER... MY HEART WAS BEATING SO FAST.

BLUSH

THAT I WANT TO DO THINGS WITH MY PARTNER. RIGHT?

IT'S ONLY NATURAL...

AND SOMEBODY COULD CATCH US.

RUB

WE'RE ON SCHOOL GROUNDS, FOR ONE.

AND AS FOR TAKENAKA... EVER SINCE I TOLD HIM, HE'S BEEN LOOKING AT ME WITH THE EYES OF AN ANGEL.

IF I TALKED TO CHIHO-KAYO ABOUT IT, THEY'D INTERROGATE ME FOR EVERY LAST DETAIL.

GLANCE

THADUMP

BLUSH

ALL HOT AND BOTHERED!

BUT HE LEAVES ME...

HELLO AND WELCOME!

本 BOOK

I HOPE WE CAN MAKE SOME PROGRESS THERE.

I WANT TO TAKE MY RELATION-SHIP WITH YUUJIROU UP A NOTCH!

THIS WEEKEND AT MOUSEY LAND... IS THE EPITOME OF A ROMANTIC DATE!

かぁ BLUUUUSH っ

AND IF THINGS GO WELL...

I WANT TO PUT MY HANDS ALL OVER HIM!

I WANT MORE AFFEC-TION!

CA
DE

ONON

MAKE YOUR 1ST TIME AMAZING

THANK YOU, COME AGAIN!

SANDWIIIICHED

TONKA'S DISH

WE TURN TO THE MASTERS!

AT TIMES LIKE THIS...

THIS OUGHTA HELP ME PREPARE FOR THE WEEKEND!

THEN IT WAS SUNDAY, THE DAY OF THE BIG EVENT.

TWEET!

TWEET!

RUI.

YUUJIROU.

CAW!

CAW!

HELLO AND WELCOME!

本 BOOK

COME BACK SOON!

SANDWIIIICHED

OH, NOTHING. I WAS JUST THINKING HOW I WAS LIKE THAT AT THEIR AGE.

YOUNG. DUMB. AND FULL OF CUM!

HEY, BOSS. WHAT'RE YOU SMILING ABOUT?

HE'S SO CUTE.

HE'S SO HANDSOME.

LET'S GO.

YEAH.

WELCOME

IF YOU'RE NOT DOING ANYTHING, WHY DON'T YOU HANG OUT WITH US?

ARE YOU FREE AT THE MOMENT?

HANG IN THERE, YUUJIROU.

I GUESS ALL YOUR EXHAUSTION IS CATCHING UP TO YOU.

DARN THAT... MIRACLE MOUNTAIN...

ドボーン

BLEEGH...

AAAAAH!

AAAAAH!

PHEW.

THANKS.

THEY'RE SELLING DRINKS NEARBY, SO YOU WAIT RIGHT THERE.

HE'D MAKE A GOOD WIFE.

THAT'S SO LIKE YUUJIROU. HE'S TOO POPULAR FOR HIS OWN GOOD.

GYAAAH! HE'S BEING HIT ON BY SOME GIRLS!!

HEY THERE.

I'M TALKING TO YOU!

A SURE-FIRE WAY TO POPPING YOUR CHERRY! IT'S IMPORTANT TO BUILD THE MOOD THROUGHOUT THE DAY.

ALL THAT'S LEFT IS WATCHING THE PARADE TOGETH-ER...

I WASN'T EXPECTING TO GET SICK FROM A RIDE. BUT SO FAR THINGS HAVE BEEN GOING PRETTY MUCH ACCORDING TO PLAN.

TO HAVE FUN WITH HIM.

I'M HERE TODAY...

NO, YOU DON'T GET IT.

THEY'RE SO BEAUTIFUL.

...

ALL DRESSED UP AND PUT TOGETHER.

OF COURSE HE CAN JOIN US TOO! THERE'S TWO OF US, SO WHY DON'T WE ALL FOUR HANG OUT?

YOU MEAN THAT TALL GUY YOU WERE JUST WITH?

SORRY, I CAME WITH A FRIEND.

I SAW THE WHOLE THING.

I'M SORRY FOR EAVES-DROP-PING...

RUI!

HOW LONG WERE YOU HERE?!

BUT I'M HAPPY.

THANK YOU.

HE DOESN'T SEEM VERY NICE.

LET'S GET OUT OF HERE.

I SEE.

HMMM.

SORRY...

PHEW.

...SURE.

WAS I GOING TO DO?

ORANGE

WHAT ELSE...

HUH?!

BUMP

YUU-JIROU!

I WUV YOU!

GLOMP

WHAT ARE YOU EVEN TALKING ABOUT?

DUDE.

IN THE WHOLE WIDE WORLD...

AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, THERE'S NOBODY...

WHO'S AS CUTE AS YOU.

ARE YOU SURE...

YOU REALLY WANT TO HANG OUT WITH ME MORE THAN THOSE PRETTY GIRLS?

THE PARADE'S ABOUT TO BEGIN!

WE'RE HERE AT MOUSEY LAND, SO WE SHOULD BE HAVING FUN!

AH! I'M SORRY! I SHOULDN'T HAVE SAID THAT.

WHAT?

Final Chapter

チラ: GLANCE

YUU-JIROU...

BUT HE WAS IN SUCH A GOOD MOOD EARLIER!

HE'S GOT A WICKED SCARY FACE ON.

BUTTER

BUTTER

BUTTER

BUTTER

AFTER THAT, WE FOUND OURSELVES...

ON THE TRAIN IN AWKWARD SILENCE.

...

AWW...

YOU NUMBSKULL! JUST WHEN THINGS WERE GOING SO WELL...

COWER

ARE YOU SURE YOU REALLY WANT TO HANG OUT WITH ME MORE THAN THOSE PRETTY GIRLS?

TODAY'S SATURDAY

HUH?

THIS IS WHAT I GET FOR KILLING THE MOOD WITH THAT STUPID THING I SAID.

I'VE NEVER TOLD HIM...

THAT WAS WHEN?!

Y-YUU-JIROU...

OR I'LL NEVER BE GROWN-UP MATERIAL.

JUST THINKING IT ISN'T ENOUGH. I HAVE TO TELL IT TO HIM STRAIGHT.

YUUJIROU! I ALSO WANT TO APOLOGIZE TO YOU!

RUI, THERE'S SOMETHING I HAVE TO TELL YOU.

I EVER TOLD HIM OUTRIGHT THAT HE'S CUTE?

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME...

I GOT SO SWEPT UP IN THE FACT THAT HE LIKES ME BACK...

THAT I DIDN'T EVEN REALIZE HE HAS INSECURITIES.

I COULD KICK MYSELF.

ガーン

SHOCK

THERE'S NOTHING CUTE ABOUT THAT.

TCH-

WHAT? THAT'S JUST...

EVEN THAT INSECU-RITY, I THINK...

WE WERE HAVING SUCH A NICE TIME, AND THEN I COMPLETELY RUINED IT.

HUH? BUT YOU HAVE NOTHING TO APOLOGIZE FOR.

OOPS...

WE MISSED OUR STOP.

HOOOOONK

STAIRWAY TO ADULTHOOD, MY ASS.

I'VE HAD IT WITH TODAY.

IT'S NOTHING.

SORRY...

NO! IT'S MY TURN TO SPEAK!

GRAB

BUT, UH, WAIT, YUU-JIROU...

I THINK EVERY LAST BIT OF YOU...

IS CU-

YUUJIROU!

SHUT

KSSH

BEEEEEP

FWAP

DIG DIG

TODAY...

I TOLD MY PARENTS I MIGHT BE...

STAYING AT A FRIEND'S HOUSE.

WELL...

UUUUH.

RUI, WHAT TIME'S YOUR CURFEW?

LET'S GET OFF AT THE NEXT STOP.

PANG!

HOPEFULLY WE CAN CATCH THE RAPID TRAIN.

YOU SEE...

SQUIRM

YEAH.

WE'RE GETTING OFF HERE?

THIS PLACE IS CLOSEST TO A LOVE HOTEL.

I'VE NEVER BEEN TO THIS STATION BEFORE.

LOOK

?!

A SURE-FIRE WAY TO POPPING YOUR CHERRY: LOOK UP THE ROUTE TO THE HOTEL FOR A SMOOTH EXPERIENCE.

IT'S THREE MINUTES AWAY ON FOOT.

WAH!

K-CLACK

I TOLD MY PARENTS THE SAME THING.

MOUSEY MAR

DING

WHRR

WHRR

5

4

3

2

BADUMP

BADUMP

BADUMP

BADUMP

IT'S BEEN BEATING SO HARD AGAINST MY RIBCAGE.

MY HEART'S NOT WORKING RIGHT.

WITH YUU-JIROU.

IT'S THE SAME...

I BET...

SO WE'D LIKE TO SPEND THE NIGHT HERE.

OUR RIDE BAILED ON US...

BADUM

YEEEEEP!

SO THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!

UH...

WE WON'T DO ANYTHING INDECENT.

Front

AHHH! YUUJIROU!

TA-DA

YOU EVEN MAKE LYING LOOK GOOD!

スタ…

スタ…

SOMETHING THAT LOOKS LIKE HANDCUFFS

HM...?

OH, GOOD. IT'S A LOT MORE NORMAL THAN I WAS EXPECTING.

I'M SWEATING UP A STORM!

EEP!

S-S-SURE! OF COURSE IT'S FINE!

IS IT ALL RIGHT IF I USE THE SHOWER FIRST?

HEEL KICK

SWIIIISH

RUI'S LEG

403

SQUISH

CREAK

CLICK

3.1415926
53589793
23846264
3383279

SSSHHH

SSSHHH

SSSHHH!!

SNEAK

SHUT

ADULT RATED!!

THIS IS SO...

SO...

JUMP

I'LL BE RIGHT THERE!

NOTHING!

NOTHING AT ALL!

SNUG

OKAY...

DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?

IT'S ALL YOURS.

I FEEL LIKE I'M BACK TO MY OLD SELF AGAIN.

PACKED

SO I'LL JUST STASH IT IN THE SIDETABLE.

YUUJIROU AND I DON'T NEED THIS YET(?)...

WHA...?!

SO THEY'RE NOT JUST IN URBAN LEGENDS!

THIS LOVE HOTEL HAS A SEE-THROUGH WINDOW INTO THE BATHROOM!

WOW[illegible]WW! ♡

SPLISH

WHICH BUTTON LOWERS THE BLINDS AGAIN?!

VOYEURISM ISN'T MY THING!

WAIT. THIS IS BAD. THIS IS VERY VERY BAD.

パシャ SPLASH

ﾅﾆｰ SSSHHH

ｷｭｯｯ SQUEAK

ﾊﾟﾀﾝ SHUT

3.1415926 53589793 23846264 3383279

I NEVER KNEW THE SOUNDS OF A SHOWER COULD BE THIS EROTIC.

KEEP YOUR HEAD...

WHRRR

MAYBE I SHOULD WATCH SOME TV.

CLICK

THANKS FOR WAITING.

I COUNTED 1000 SHEEP, BUT STILL HAVEN'T SETTLED DOWN.

HOTEL

TMP

HOTEL

TMP

...

YUUJIROU?

HUH?

I SAW YOU.

I'M SORRY.

SPLASH

ギシ
CREAK

RUI.

ビク…
FLINCH

YOU'RE STILL OKAY BEING THE BOTTOM?

I JUST WANT TO CHECK...

ぎゅ
SQUISH

…!

透け
SEE-THROUGH

AH!!

MMM. HE'S CUTE.

I WISH I COULD DISAPPEAR!

MOLE!

じん
SWOON

I FORGOT I COULD'VE PREPPED ON MY OWN.

YOU'RE RIGHT. I'LL BE HONEST.

RUI.

THANK YOU.

YOU WERE THINKING SO MUCH ABOUT US.

?!

BECAUSE ALL I WAS THINKING ABOUT WAS HOW BAD I WANTED TO TAKE YOU.

YES.

Y...

JUMP

I'M ALWAYS GETTING AHEAD OF MYSELF... AND SPINNING MY WHEELS.

YOU HAVEN'T PREPPED YOUR ASS LIKE I HAVE.

I'M SO FREAKIN' EMBAR-RASSED...

SMOOCH

HFF...

MMH...

SMOOCH

SLOWLY NOW.

I CAN'T GO TOO FAST AND RISK HURTING HIM.

SMOOCH

MMH

PAH

HAH.

LICK

SHLICK

OPEN YOUR MOUTH?

HAH...

I WANNA FRENCH KISS.

FOR THE PAST THREE MONTHS...

GULP

MELT

HAAH.

HAAH.

HAAH.

TWITCH

MM...!

I'M SO EXCITED!

BUT FOR SOME REASON...

BADUMP

BADUMP

A FRENCH KISS? WHAT'S THAT MEAN?

THAT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE YUU-JIROU AT ALL.

WAH!

PRESS

PRESS

IMAGINING HOW IT WOULD GO.

I'VE PLAYED THIS OVER AND OVER IN MY HEAD...

MM... I'M OKAY.

KEEP GOING.

YOU OKAY?

FOR WHAT?!

I'VE WAITED SO LONG FOR THIS...

AH!

SUCK

JOLT

IT MUST BE SCARY HAVING SOMEONE ELSE'S FINGER POKING AROUND IN YOUR INSIDES.

YOU'RE A LITTLE SCARED, AREN'T YOU?

HE'S TREM-BLING.

TREMBL

SLIP

OR MORE LIKE THOUSAND TIMES?

GLOP

NO.

SHEESH...

HFF.

BUT TO HAVE THE REAL RUI IN THE FLESH IS A HUNDRED TIMES BETTER.

YOU'RE SO TIGHT!

AHHH...

I'LL TAKE THAT AS A COMPLIMENT.

IT'S NOT A COMPLIMENT! IT'S A COMPLAINT!

YOU IDIOT!

HAH!

HAH!

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S SO BIG!

ROCK

AH...

IT OKAY IF I START TO MOVE?

HA HA. HEY...

THAT'S GOOD...

FLINCH

BUT EVEN SO, YOU'RE NOT TRYING TO GET AWAY FROM MY EMBRACE.

YOU'RE SO ADORABLE IN MY ARMS.

I CAN BARELY TAKE IT.

I'M NOT JUST DREAMING. YOU'RE FINALLY TRULY MINE.

AH...

AH!

PRESS

THRUST

FINISH IN ME.

SHIVER

AH!

ROCK

ROCK

AH!

GULP

DID I MAKE HIM CRY?

AH.

DRIP

NNNGH...

SHIVER

YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT MINE!

YUU-JIROU!

SHUDDER

JUMP

AAH!

SHUCK

SHUCK

JUST

JUST

...OKAY.

SMEAR

YUUJIROU, YOU'RE JUST SO BIG... SO OF COURSE IT'S A LOT TO TAKE.

BUT MORE THAN THE PAIN, I FEEL HAPPINESS!!

RUI, IF THIS IS TOO MUCH FOR YOU, WE CAN STOP FOR TODAY.

IT...

IT'S FINE.

HFF.

THIS IS TOO HARD ON HIM.

I KNEW BEING THE BOTTOM MUST BE REALLY TOUGH...

...CLIMBED THE STAIRWAY TO ADULTHOOD.

RUI.

YOU'RE...

HONESTLY SO CUTE.

チラ チラ

スヤ zzz

I'M SO JEALOUS...

HE'S FOR MY EYES ONLY.

YEAH...

I LOVE YOU TOO.

YUU-JIROU...

I LOVE YOU.

AND SO THE TWO OF US...

YAY! WE FINALLY MADE IT HERE.

IT'S THE CREPE STAND!

CREPE

WELL, UMINO?

YOU'RE BEING SO OBVIOUS, I DON'T EVEN WANNA ASK YOU NOW!

EEEEE!

SPARKLE

SPARKLE

DON'T YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO ASK ME?

I GOT THE GRILLED BANANA AND CHOCOLATE CREPE!

THE OWNER WAS IN THE HOSPITAL, SO THEY WERE CLOSED FOR A WHILE.

UMMM! YOU SURE YOU'RE NOT JUST IMAGINING THINGS?

IN FACT, YOU SEEM EVEN CUTER.

HANAMINE, YOU SEEM TIRED.

GOOD MORNING.

YOU GOT SOME ON YOUR FACE.

YOU CUTIE.

BLUUUUSH

DUMMY! YOU'RE MAKING ME UNCOM-FORTABLE!

MY LOVER IS STILL THE CUTEST IN THE WORLD.

I'VE JUST GOTTEN MORE HONEST WITH MYSELF.

YUUJIROU. YOU FEEL LIKE A DIFFERENT PERSON.

The End!

NEW YEAR'S EVE

THE OLD YEAR AND THE NEW YEAR

11:45 P.M.

DECEMBER 31ST

ABOUT NEW YEAR'S TV SPECIALS.

EH, I DON'T REALLY CARE...

MY FAMILY'S COMPLETELY ABSORBED IN WATCHING SINGING COMPETITIONS.

IT TYPICALLY TAKES ME TWO DAYS TO REPLY TO TEXTS AND FIVE DAYS FOR EMAILS.

I'M NOTORIOUS FOR BEING LAZY WHEN IT COMES TO KEEPING IN TOUCH.

BUT RUI'S BEEN DILIGENT ABOUT KEEPING THE TRADITION OF SWAPPING NEW YEAR'S GREETING MESSAGES.

ゴーン SHOOOOCK

I CAN'T FIGURE OUT WHAT TO WRITE TO RUI...

AS A NEW YEAR'S GREETING.

DEKO-BOKO SUGAR DAYS

: YUSEN ATSUKO

MAYBE I'LL JUST...

CALL HIM.

THIS YEAR, I'VE BEEN MULLING IT OVER SINCE 6 P.M. AND STILL I'M NO BETTER OFF.

HAAAAH...

IT TAKES LONGER FOR ME TO FIGURE OUT WHAT TO WRITE.

BUT AS THE YEARS GO BY AND MY LOVE AND PASSION FOR RUI GROWS...

MAYBE I JUST SHOULDN'T SEND IT.

I MIGHT AS WELL NOT.

SHOOT! WHILE I WAS BUSY RUNNING CIRCLES IN MY HEAD...

23:59

IT'S ALREADY THE NEW YEAR-

00:0

TICK

AH!

AAAUGH!

IDIOT!

THAT IS THE LAST THING YOU SHOULD DO!

THINK OF THE PRESSURE! WHAT WOULD YOU EVEN SAY?!

AND I CAN'T JUST NOT REPLY TO IT.

IT'S NO USE. EVEN IF I DON'T SEND ONE, RUI'S TEXT WILL STILL ARRIVE.

...

IT'D BE CUTE IF HE ALSO AGONIZED OVER IT AND LOST SLEEP...

(SIDE NOTE: WINTERTIME RUI IS SO FLUFFY AND CUTE. HE'S VERY SENSITIVE TO THE COLD.)

WE'LL BE SEEING EACH OTHER BRIGHT AND EARLY FOR THE FIRST TEMPLE VISIT OF THE YEAR ANYWAY, SO I CAN GIVE HIM MY GREETING THEN.

BADUMP

BADUMP

RUI HANAMINE
XXX-XXXX-XXXX

GOOOOONG

RING-
A-LING-
LING

RING-
A-LING-
LING

JUMP

HAPPY
NEW YEAR!!

GOOOOONG

GOOOOONG

SNAP

THANK
GOODNESS
YOU'RE
STILL UP.

AH!
YUU-
JIROU!

SWIPE

SWIPE

SWIPE

SWIPE

LOOM

I WANTED TO GET MY FEELINGS ACROSS IN IT BUT STILL MAKE IT EASY TO READ.
I STARTED TO GET ALL NERVOUS FOR SOME REASON AND COULDN'T DECIDE ON WHAT TO WRITE.
I WAS CONSIDERING TEXTING YOU AS USUAL, BUT...
YUUJIROU, LISTEN, UM...
AND I KEPT THINKING UP ALL THESE SCENARIOS, BUT IN THE END I FIGURED WHY NOT JUST CALL—
RUI!
BLAB
BLAB
RUI.
BLAB
BLAB

HAPPY NEW YEAR!
YEAH!
HERE'S TO ANOTHER GREAT YEAR TOGETHER!
BLUUUUSH

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

MATSUKAZE WROTE TOO LITTLE.
HANAMINE WROTE TOO MUCH.
FOR THE RECORD, THESE WERE THE REJECTED TEXTS.
HNY!
CRUMPLED

AND SO THE LOVEY-DOVEY COUPLE HAD A SAFE START TO THE NEW YEAR.
PHEW...
HE STARTED OFF THE NEW YEAR JUST AS CUTE AS EVER.

OF COURSE IT'S NOT ENTIRELY YUU-JIROU'S FAULT.

I HAVE MY NEEDS TOO.

DAZZLE

WE DID IT LAST WEEK, THIS WEEK, THE OTHER DAY, AND JUST YESTERDAY.

I CAN'T REMEMBER THE LAST TIME WE WERE TOGETHER AND DIDN'T HAVE SEX.

BOW

WOW

CHICKA

WOW

I'M GOING OFF ON A TANGENT!

WAIT, NO, THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M HERE TO TALK ABOUT!

BUT LATELY IT'S STARTED FEELING AMAZING.

AT FIRST, IT WAS KIND OF PAINFUL.

COULD IT BE... YUUJIROU ONLY WANTS MY BODY?!

HOW AWFUL...

THAT JERK WAS ONLY AFTER MY BODY! THE LOWLIFE!!

BAM ガァン

IT'S BEEN SOME MONTHS SINCE I STARTED GOING OUT WITH MY CHILDHOOD FRIEND YUUJIROU MATSUKAZE.

HELLO. MY NAME IS RUI HANAMINE.

BUT RECENTLY, I'VE STARTED TO WORRY ABOUT SOMETHING.

WE'RE BOTH VERY, VERY HAPPY AND IN LOVE!

I'M WONDERING IF...

MAYBE WE'RE HAVING TOO MUCH SEX?

PRESSSS

NUDGE

I KNOW, BUT...

SHEESH

COME ON, YUUJIROU! YOU SAID WE WOULDN'T DO IT TODAY!

YUU-JIROU, YOU IDIOT! (NOT TRUE)

SWOOOON

I DON'T GET YOU! (LIE)

I'M ALONE WITH MY BELOVED BOYFRIEND.

キラ SPARKLE

キラ GLEAM

I CAN'T HELP BUT WANT TO TOUCH YOU.

*AS YOU KNOW, HANAMINE HAS A TENDENCY TO LET HIS NEGATIVE THOUGHTS SPIRAL...

I COULDN'T STAND THAT IF IT HAPPENED!

HANAMINE'S HOUSE

WILL HE EVENTUALLY GET TIRED OF MY BODY... AND DUMP ME?!

NO, NO. THAT COULDN'T BE.

AND YET...

WHAT IF HE DOES START TO FEEL THAT WAY...?

STARE

...?!

I JUST WORRY THAT YOU ONLY LOVE MY BODY, YUUJIROU!

N-N-N-NOW'S NOT THE TIME TO SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT!

I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHERE YOU'D SUDDENLY GET SUCH AN IDEA.

YOUR–

SHOCK

!!

IF YOU'RE GOING TO ACCUSE ME OF THAT, THEN HOW DO I KNOW YOU DON'T ONLY LOVE MY DICK?!

JUST FOR THE TIME BEING... I'D LIKE US TO TAKE A BREAK FROM IT.

I'M SORRY. I KNOW IT'S A SILLY WORRY, BUT...

DO YOU WANT TO DO IT THAT BADLY, YUU-JIROU?

LAST WEEK, WE GOT TOGETHER TO STUDY, BUT PARTWAY THROUGH...

I-I'M NOT MAD.

WHAT'RE YOU GETTING SO MAD ABOUT?

HMPH.

I WANT TO HAVE SEX WITH YOU.

I DO.

YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO CLARIFY...

TALK ABOUT A STRAIGHT-SHOOTER!

IT'S NOT LIKE ANYTHING ACTUALLY HAPPENED... BUT...

WELL...

WHAT'S THE MATTER? DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?

BUT I DON'T WANT TO DO ANYTHING YOU DON'T WANT TO DO.

IT HASN'T HELPED ANYTHING. I NEED YOU TO TAKE ME AT LEAST TWICE... MAKE THAT THREE TIMES.

DOOOONG DING

ABSTAINING FROM SEX HAS ALSO IMPACTED MY EVERYDAY ACTIVITIES.

YUUJIROU ISN'T HERE RIGHT NOW.

OH, RUI. I'M SORRY.

NOT AT ALL!

I'M THE ONE WHO SHOWED UP UN-ANNOUNCED!

I SWEAR, MY BOY CAN BE SO BAD WHEN IT COMES TO COMMUNI-CATING!

HUH?

HE TOLD ME HIS CLUB IS DOING A SLEEP-AWAY PRACTICE THIS WEEKEND.

DID YOU TWO HAVE PLANS TO HANG OUT?

AND THEN TEN DAYS.

FIVE DAYS PASSED...

FINE.

AND SO...

AND THEN, AFTER TWO WEEKS...

KLATCH

ZSH

ZSH

ZSH

I DO LOVE YOUR DICK!

YOU WIN.

BAH

FINE, YUU-JIROU.

I'M SUCH AN IDIOT.

YUUJIROU WAS SHOWERING ME WITH ALL THAT AFFECTION.

AND I PUSHED HIM AWAY, SAYING I DOUBTED HIM.

HOW COULD I HAVE BEEN SO STUPID AS TO ACCUSE HIM OF ONLY WANTING MY BODY?

OBVIOUSLY A SOFT-SKINNED GIRL WOULD BE MUCH MORE PREFERABLE THAN ME.

CRIAK

YUU-JIROU...

KUH...

HIC...

YUU-JIROU...

WHAT IF HE AND HIS CLUB'S FEMALE MANAGER ARE GETTING TOGETHER RIGHT NOW?

DRIP

TMP

YOU SURE?

IT'S OKAY IF HE'S NOT HERE!

HE ALWAYS MADE SURE TO LET ME KNOW.

TMP

TMP

EVER SINCE WE STARTED GOING OUT, IF HE EVER HAD A SLEEP-AWAY...

POOMF

FWAP

THUD

TMP

...THE DOOR?

KLATCH

SMOOCH

MOOSH

HAH!

MMPH!

UH. YOUR FRONT DOOR WASN'T LOCKED, SO I CLOSED IT FOR YOU.

MY MOM CALLED TO LET ME KNOW YOU'D DROPPED BY.

PRACTICE HAD JUST WRAPPED UP, SO I HURRIED BACK AS SOON AS I COULD.

I ONLY DIDN'T CALL YOU BECAUSE I WAS BEING STUBBORN.

I'M SORRY.

COULD YOU PLEASE OPEN...

KNOCK

JUMP

RUI.

I THOUGHT I WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO LIKED RUI'S SWEAT.

...!

WHAT'S UP WITH HIM TODAY?

BADUMP

THUMP

TAKE ME.

BLUUUUSH

WHA...

...!

AND I LOVE YOU *HERE* TOO. ♡

YUYU...

KISS

I LOVE YOU.

I LIKE THE SMELL OF YOUR SWEAT, YUUJIROU.

IT'S OKAY.

I HAVEN'T SHOWERED YET.

WHOA!

HOLD ON! TIME OUT!

PULLLLL

KNOW THAT I LOVE YOU.

CREAK

CREAK

NO, YOU DON'T GET IT.

YOU DON'T, WHICH IS WHY THIS HAPPENED.

THRUST

THRUST

I... I KNOW NOW... ♡

YUU-JIROU... ♡

IF YOU TELL ME YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND, I'M NOT LISTENING.

I'VE GONE SO LONG WITHOUT...

YOU'RE RILING ME UP TOO MUCH, RUI.

AAAW, THIS IS TOO CUTE! ♡♡

BADUUUUM

RUI! I'M BACK!

LISTEN TO THIS! THAT CREEP FROM BEFORE GOT ON HIS HANDS AND KNEES TO APOLOGIZE...

THEY MUST'VE BEEN STUDYING SO HARD, THEY FELL ASLEEP. BETTER SNAP A SHOT. ♡

WHOOPS!

MM!

AH!

SMACK

KISS

RUI.

CREAK

I GET IT... ALREADY...

I LOVE YOU.

I LOVE YOU... I LOVE YOU.

CREAK

CREAK

CREAK

Afterword

I MAY BY CLUELESS, BUT I HAD MY EDITOR H-SAMA TO GUIDE ME, MY FRIEND A-CHAN TO HEAR ALL MY PROBLEMS, ALL MY READERS WHO CHEERED ME ON DURING THE SERIALIZATION OF THIS STORY, AND EVERYONE WHO READ THIS BOOK. THANK YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART!

- ATSUKO YUSEN

TITLE: HANAMINE LOOKING AT A CAT WITH MATSUKAZE LOOKING AT HANAMINE LOOKING AT A CAT AND A CAT LOOKING AT MATSUKAZE LOOKING AT HANAMINE LOOKING AT A CAT

SNS
HELLO. RUI HANAMINE HERE.
MY RECENT WORRIES HAVE BEEN ABOUT MY FUTURE AND STUDYING FOR MY EXAMS.
SEE YA, EVERYONE.
UNTIL NEXT TIME, WHEREVER THAT MAY BE!
Dekoboko Sugar Days (END)
EVEN IF I HAVE MORE WORRIES AND THINGS THAT BRING ME TO TEARS DOWN THE ROAD...
I'M SURE THE TWO OF US WILL KEEP ON GOING.
BUT I HAVE A LOVER I CAN TRUST...
WHO LOVES ME AS MUCH AS I LOVE HIM.